

COMMUNITY NEWS

Happy Mother's Day Sunday, May 11th!



The building above is 105 years old. It is the County Seat of Coffee County (we usually say the Elba Courthouse) and to me it is a beautiful building, well preserved, and I would like to help keep it this way.

The Courthouse is located in District 3, and as Commissioner for this district I have had the opportunity to help restore the foundation, keep up the building, have a new roof put on, renovate the restrooms, and last year to restore the striking of the town clock.

One has to climb a ladder in the tower to reach the clock and most people do not realize that there is an old-time bell in the Courthouse Tower, probably as old as the Courthouse itself. A hammer strikes this bell to cause the chimes one hears when it strikes the hour. It took years to find someone who would (or could) work on this type of clock but when we did we discovered that over the many years of the hammer hitting the bell, the hammer had worn a hole completely through the bell and this had to be fixed before it would strike again.

It is nice to go to town at 11 or 12 o'clock and listen when the clock strikes the full amount of times to signify the hour. This brings back memories of keeping time at school by listening for the town clock to strike!

The City governing body has been very good in helping with the courthouse square and I would like to thank them for their excellent cooperation. In their plans for the revitalization of downtown, the City will install all of our electrical wiring underground and we have the money in the County budget already approved to place old-time lighting around the square.

A vote for me, Robert G. Stephens, for Commissioner of District 3 will be appreciated. I will always strive to preserve our heritage.

(Pd Pol Ad by Robert Stephens 588 E. Davis St. Elba, AL 36323

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Elba General Hospital honored for commitment to quality improvement

AQAF, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Alabama, has recognized Elba General Hospital for its participation in a three-year statewide quality improvement and patient safety project that has saved thousands of lives since 2005.

Elba General was one of 29 Alabama hospitals to take part in the campaign to transform the health care delivery system for Alabama's Medicare beneficiaries. The hospitals worked intensively with AQAF to build safer systems and to accelerate clinical excellence in three areas: improved treatment of heart attack, congestive heart failure and pneumonia; prevention of surgical infection; and health information technology.

As a result of the 29 hospitals' three-year effort to date, 6,236 lives have been saved as a result of patients receiving the appropriate care for which they were eligible, and 2,115 lives have been saved as a result of antibiotics being properly administered to patients before and after surgery.

For more information visit <http://www.aqaf.com/>.



Mary Gray (left) accepts the award on behalf of Elba General Hospital for its participation in a three-year statewide quality improvement project since 2005. The award was presented by Keith Granger (right), chairman of AQAF, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Alabama. Elba General was one of 29 Alabama hospitals to take part in this campaign.



A LETTER TO MOM

IN MEMORY OF ERIE M. CROOK

Dear Momma,

This is your son, Boots. We've been without you now for seven months and 4 days. I'll never forget that early Sunday afternoon when I went to check on you and you had left us. Sunday mornings and early afternoons, and even Saturday nights, have been a sad time for me, bringing back vivid memories of the worst day of my life. Having taken care of you for most of the last ten years before you left us, my purpose in life left me that day. The void without you is almost unbearable. The void often brings tears to my eyes, as it is right now. Finding any meaningful activity that satisfies that void has been almost impossible. Contributing to the well being of my family, as you did, and as I know you would have wanted me to do, is the best I can do. But it somehow still falls far short of the meaning that taking care of you brought to my life.

Doctors told me the last several years of your life that you didn't know who I was, but the last two days of your life you kept your eyes open, when you had kept them closed almost continuously for months. I believe deeply in my heart that, even if you couldn't speak anymore, you knew that I was someone who loved you and cared for you deeply, and that you felt the same for me, and that you knew you would be leaving me soon. We both knew we had a Mother-son bond like no other.

Besides being my Mother, you were my best friend. For many, many years, you and the house in Elba were my refuge from the seemingly relentless struggles and hardships of everyday life. You provided a safe haven for me to recover from the some of the most difficult times of my life. I always knew you loved me, even if nobody else in the world did. You told me you forgave me for all my wrongdoings I inflicted on you until you could no longer speak. If I didn't get to the house until 2 or 3 am, you still woke up with all the zest and energy of anybody I've ever known and prepared a full, delicious meal for me. Being without you on the hill during the springtime has been very hard, since it was our favorite time of year. We always loved hearing the birds singing in the warmer weather, not to mention the beautifully blooming azaleas and dogwood trees. And, of course, one of our favorites was the sweet smell of the honeysuckles every year. We knew she should smell them soon, because they wouldn't be there long. I've realized that the same thing is true of life. You better take the good that's here in life now (loving those around you, as you taught me to do), because it won't be long before your chance will be gone forever.

For the first time in my life, I will be going through all these things without you. Now I know what someone meant when they said, "The most precious things in life are free." And I certainly understand what Dorothy meant in the Wizard of Oz when she clicked the heels of her shoes three times and said, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home, there's no place like home." Now I truly understand what having a purpose in life means.

Our family has been through many "first times" already without you. Your birthday on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Day and Easter have all passed without the beauty of your wonderful spirit amongst us, and one now of the most difficult, Mother's Day, will be coming. The first day I saw the "Mother's Day" card section in a store I stood there and cried and hoped no one saw me. It will be the first Mother's Day that any of your children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren will have ever experienced without you being with us. It will be a very, very sad day for all of us. I will be thinking of what a wonderful person you were, how much you loved your family, and the way that helping others made you so very, very happy.

When I tell people you are the most kind and gentle person I have ever known, they think I am just saying that just because you are my Mom. Only those that knew you best know that I'm saying it because it's actually true. I've never met anyone on earth who was happier to do things for other people than you were. You easily and naturally spread love and good cheer wherever you were. You loved your students, and they loved you. I know that you would have given your last penny to a stranger, and that all he had to do was to ask for it.

When I look at videos from your younger days, I can only think of how I wished I had told you "I Love You" more, hugged you more and told you how much I appreciate you more. I will end by saying the same thing I say to you every night, even after your passing. "Thank you for everything you have done for me. I'm sorry for everything I have ever done that hurt you. Thank you for sticking with me, staying with me, and always being there for me. Thank you for making a home for me and always being there for me. Because of you I always had a home to go to, and you were always there for me. Thank you, Momma, I Miss You, Momma. I Love You, Momma.

You'll forever be in my heart.
I'll never forget you.
I'll always love you,
Your loving son,
Boots

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Drum Majors
Air Force award

INSIDE

Drum Majors
chosen for
2008-09 Marching
Tiger Band

INSIDE

Elba Lady Tigers
fall in sub-state
finals

The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 49 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, May 15, 2008 1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

During Coffee County Commission meeting County extension office recognizes two commissioners for their service

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting held Monday, May 12, opened with a special presentation from the county extension office.

Stan Windham, director of the Coffee County Extension Office, was recognized by Commission Chairman Tom Grimesley for the presentation.

Windham said he thinks everyone knows how important the county commission is to a county.

"I've had the privilege of working with commissioners for 28 years," Windham said. "It's sad to me when you have people retiring, especially out of this group."

With commissioners Linda Westbrook and Doug Dalrymple not planning to seek re-election to the Coffee County

Commission this year, Windham said his office will be retiring at the end of this month, and he wanted to attend Monday's meeting so simply say, "thank you."

Lolley also announced that Susan Ziglar from the Dothan Office of Veterans Affairs will be his temporary replacement, but, hopefully, a full-time replacement will be in place by August.

Shortly after Windham made his presentation to Westbrook and Dalrymple, commissioners listened as another long-time public servant announced his retirement.

Robert Lolley, director of the county's Veterans Affairs office, made a motion with a second from Commissioner J.L. Weeks to present Lolley with a proclamation at the next meeting from the Coffee County Commission recognizing his years of service. This motion passed unanimously.

The meeting took a confusing turn as Commissioners began discussing and voting on motions made in regards to assisting the City of Enterprise.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks said the mayor of Enterprise was at the last work session and asked for the county to help him with funds for the farmers market.

He offered a motion with Lolley and from Commissioner Grimesley to render support to Enterprise by offering a feasible amount of funds (after taking a look at the budget) to help Enterprise with its farmers market.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks said the mayor of Enterprise was at the last work session and asked for the county to help him with funds for the farmers market.

Local funds include local property taxes imposed by the voters either for general purposes, such as bond issue repayment, or for specific purposes, such as school taxes, alcohol beverage taxes, and the \$5.00 check off on Elba utility bills. Local gasoline taxes supply \$2,000 a month to the schools.

Services, \$21,000; instructional supplements not state funds \$30,000.

There are also county sales taxes that are classified as "local funds." Accounting records show that the 7.7 percent local funds (Elba, Troy, and Enterprise) are used for utilities (\$250,000 a year for electricity alone).

The volunteer \$5 check off was started several years ago when the education budget statewide was in proportion and the local schools were in dire need of operating funds. That monthly check off amount has continued to drop after the gasoline tax was imposed and as years passed to about \$1400 per month now.

The Elba alcohol beverage tax of \$61,539 in the past fiscal year that ended September 30, 2007 while city sales tax not state funded, \$200,000; six support staff, \$260,000; one Psychometrist on contract.

Elba City Council receives good news regarding annual sewer system report

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Stan Windham (left), director of the county extension office, presented plaques to commissioners Doug Dalrymple and Linda Westbrook during Monday's Coffee County Commission meeting thanking them for their service. The two commissioners are not seeking re-election to the commission.

Several employments approved during County BOE meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Following the annual awards ceremony Tuesday evening, May 6, hosted by the Coffee County Board of Education to recognize the achievements of students from Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel schools; board members gathered for a short meeting.

One of the main reasons for the board meeting was to decide which personnel presents by Superintendent Linda Lolley.

Personnel actions recommended by the superintendent and approved by board members included:

• Accepted the resignation of Brad Barton – secondary math teacher at Zion Chapel School.

• Approved the employment of Angela Kelley – science teacher at Kinston School.

• Approved the employment of Kelly Pouncey – elementary teacher at Zion Chapel School.

• Approved the employment of Karie Striplin – volleyball coach at New Brockton High School.

• Approved the employment of Gid Zorn – girls head basketball coach at Kinston School.

• Approved the employment of Ricki Walker – Spanish teacher at Kinston School.

• Accepted the resignation of

• Accepted the resignation of</

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

The battle for the Democratic nomination for President continues with supporters of each side claiming to be "the people's choice". There is some more voting this week...so be prepared for the winner to claim it means "I am the choice". At the same time the other candidate will either disagree with the vote or downplay its importance. If it matters to you, make up your mind which side is right.

Of more importance to Coffee County, Alabama voters should be learning about the candidates for local elections. Many potential voters are apparently in the same boat as this country boy. Today when asked by a lady for information on the various candidates for the U. S. Representative seat being vacated by Terry Everett, we just shock our head. It is terrible for it to be this close to voting day and to be so uninformated as we are on the various candidates. Actually we would be hard pressed to even name all of them, and no way could we give anyone any idea of the workings of even half of them! Several times a week there is a message in our e-mail announcing this great TV ad one or another of the candidates has just scheduled for airing, but nothing of any substance about their positions on issues of importance to us.

Two tragedies hit in Asia during the past week. The cyclone (hurricane to us Americans) which hit Myanmar (Burma to us of the gray hair society) on May 20 continues to foster escalating misery for the hungry, wet, sick residents. The normal problems which accompany such a disaster is worsened by the ruling military insisting on getting the credit for relief supplies sent in by other countries. The United Nations predicts the death toll here could exceed 100,000 before the search for survivors is over.

Then there is the massive earthquake which hit China, destroying buildings, killing people and trapping an untold number of others under the rubble. This includes hundreds trapped and/or killed in one multi-story school building. The death toll from this quake had already passed 12,000 Tuesday afternoon, according to an internet news sight. That before rescuers have even gotten to many of the worse damaged locations.

As if all the above was not enough misery for all humanity, just set off seven bombs in a crowded marked area of India Tuesday. They had to be working together as all seven exploded at about the same time. Initially there were reports of 60 dead and hundreds wounded in this vicious action. We have no way of understanding the thinking of those who plan and/or carry out these acts of violence. Therefore we judge them on our standards and fold them as a bunch of crazy Nazis. We accept that people get mad and hurt or kill those they blame for their pain. It is not normal but accepted as reality. However there is no way for us to accept the idea of any gain from randomly killing innocent men, women and children who are only guilty of trying to live their lives and care for their families.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, May 5, 2008, investigated the following incidents: four for theft of property, one for identity theft, one for unlawful breaking and entering, one for criminal possession of a forged instrument, two for breaking and entering a motor vehicle, one for attempted possession of a controlled substance, two for domestic violence, one for verbal domestic dispute, one for burglary, one for aggravated stalking, one for public intoxication, one for criminal mischief, one for a domestic disturbance, one for indecent exposure/consumption, one for unlawful possession of marijuana, one for driving under the influence, one for a missing person, one for a private property accident and one cat bite.

The following arrests were made: one for aggravated stalking, one for public intoxication, two for minor in consumption, one for unlawful possession of marijuana and one for driving under the influence.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for a revoked driver's license, three for not wearing a seat belt, one for driving without first obtaining a driver's license, one for parking on the roadway and three for speeding.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, MAY 5 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to 615 Jackson St. (1:44 p.m.); Woods fire across from 826 County Rd. 359 (2:47 p.m.).

TUESDAY, MAY 6 - Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to Elba Elementary School (10:44 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the Elba MarketPlace (8:25 p.m.).

THURSDAY, MAY 8 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, MAY 9 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, MAY 10 - Prowler reported at 1111 Carline St. (12:00 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at Beaver Dam Apartments (1:05 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at 812 Cedar Lane Dr. (3:26 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1032 Martin Luther King Dr., Lot 10 (1:40 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on Jackson St. (4:00 p.m.); Progress reported on Martin Luther King Dr. (7:37 p.m.).

SUNDAY, MAY 11 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to Brown's Trailer (12:17 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Branson Trailer Court (12:17 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 611 Kendrick St. (1:40 p.m.); Domestic disturbance (verbal) reported at 615 Jackson St. (1:44 p.m.); Woods fire across from 826 County Rd. 359 (2:47 p.m.).

MONDAY, MAY 12 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, MAY 13 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, MAY 16 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, MAY 17 - Prowler reported at 1111 Carline St. (12:00 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at Beaver Dam Apartments (1:05 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at 812 Cedar Lane Dr. (3:26 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1032 Martin Luther King Dr., Lot 10 (1:40 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on Jackson St. (4:00 p.m.); Progress reported on Martin Luther King Dr. (7:37 p.m.).

SUNDAY, MAY 18 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to Brown's Trailer (12:17 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Branson Trailer Court (12:17 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 611 Kendrick St. (1:40 p.m.); Domestic disturbance (verbal) reported at 615 Jackson St. (1:44 p.m.); Woods fire across from 826 County Rd. 359 (2:47 p.m.).

MONDAY, MAY 19 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, MAY 20 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, MAY 23 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, MAY 24 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, MAY 29 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, MAY 30 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, MAY 31 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 6 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JUNE 9 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 13 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JUNE 16 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 20 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JUNE 23 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 27 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JUNE 30 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JULY 1 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 4 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JULY 5 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JULY 7 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JULY 8 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 11 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JULY 12 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JULY 14 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JULY 15 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 18 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JULY 19 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JULY 21 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JULY 22 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 25 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JULY 26 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, JULY 28 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, JULY 29 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JULY 31 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUGUST 4 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUGUST 11 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUGUST 18 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUGUST 25 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, AUGUST 31 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 - Routine activity.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - Routine activity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1215 Deal St. (7:25 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 80 County Rd. 403 (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 718 Simmons St. (10:26 p.m.).

LIFESTYLES

Flag disposal ceremony to be held at American Legion in Samson on June 10th

The 35th District of the American Legion will be conducting a flag disposal ceremony of June 10, 2008 at the American Legion Post in Samson, Ala. This ceremony is available to all post within the District and each post will be collecting unserviceable, worn and tattered U.S. Flags for proper disposal. If anyone has an unserviceable

U.S. Flag that they would like to have properly disposed, they are asked to please contact any American Legion Member in their area or call their local Veterans Affairs Officer. In Coffee County, call 894-5858 or drop flags by the office located in the county office complex at 1065 East McKinnon Street by 3 p.m. on Monday, June 9th.

Zoar Holiness Church to celebrate homecoming and have revival services

Homecoming to be observed at Zoar Holiness Church Sunday, May 18th.

Morning Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m. featuring The Boggs Family. Following morning worship there will be

a fellowship dinner and an afternoon service.

On May 19-23rd Zoar Holiness Church will hold revival services featuring The Boggs Family.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gaston Prater request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their daughter

Allyson Rayne
to
Mr. Brett Collins

on Saturday, the seventeenth of May
two thousand and eight
at half past five o'clock
in the afternoon,
Sweet Gum Bottom
27761 Straughn School Road,
Andalusia, Alabama.

Reception will follow the ceremony

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New Arrival

JACKSON PATRICK
OLIVER



to r: Marlene Willis, Miriam Farris, Janine Cole, JoAnne Parker and Doris Mallory

Magnolia Home and Garden Club installs new officers at May meeting

On Friday, May 2, 2008 the Magnolia Home & Garden Club held its final meeting of the year. Members met the Home Pit for a dutch lunch before the regular business.

Discussion of maintenance of the club's flower bed project was held, and appreciated the direction and help given by

non-member Nell Gilmer in preparation of the flower bed at Tiger Town Park.

The main event of the day was the installation of officers for the 2008-2009 club year. Those installed were Janine

Coles, president; Miriam Farris, Vice-President; Marlene Willis, recording secretary; Doris Mallory, corresponding secretary; and JoAnne Parker, Treasurer.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2008. The registration deadline for the Enterprise Youth College is June 9, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. and the deadline for Ft. Rucker Youth College is June 30, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.

All course descriptions may be found on the EOCO website: www.eoco.edu. For more information call (334) 347-2623, ext. 4221 (Ft. Rucker).

Each course will have a reg-

istration fee and is limited to 10-25 students. Some classes also have additional supply fees that are listed with the course description. A student may register for a maximum number of three classes at each campus. Those children who register for one or more classes will receive a free Youth College T-shirt. No registration will be taken over the phone and in order to register for classes, students must provide their social security number.

All course descriptions may be found on the EOCO website: www.eoco.edu. For more information call (334) 347-2623, ext. 4221 (Ft. Rucker).

Area students earn degrees from University of Alabama

The University of Alabama awarded some 2,781 degrees during spring commencement that was held Saturday, May 10, on campus.

With this graduating class, UA will have awarded more than 204,000 degrees since its founding in 1838 as the state's first public university.

The following students are listed as candidates that received degrees: Elba Ala. Jen Curran - Bachelor's Degree; New Brockton Ala. Michael H. Scott - Bachelor's Degree; New Brockton Ala. William - Bachelor's Degree; Bradley Ala. Alison Bees Thompson - Master's Degree; Bradley Ala. Jerri Bryan Grant - Bachelor's De-

gree.

Tsgt Linda M. Hughes receives 2007 Air Force

Productivity Excellence Award

On April 8, 2008, Tsgt Linda

M. Hughes received the Air Force Productivity Excellence Award (AFPEA) for her award was presented to her Pentagon by the Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel, Lt Gen Richard Newton.

The AFPEA recognizes individuals and small groups of military and civilians who made substantial improvement resulting in a saving of at least \$1 million. Tsgt Hughes and her co-worker (Tsgt Ferris), on their own initiative, devised a low cost, commercial-off-the-shelf solution to transform existing hard copy Air Force (AF) munitions document to a comprehensive Electronic Record.

In attendance at the presentation were MSgt Johnn Hughes (husband), Eulie Hughes (son), Eula and Tommie Brooks Jr. (parents), Annette Brooks (sister), and a host of co-workers/friends.

Tsgt Hughes is a 1988 graduate of the High School. Currently, she is assigned to Headquarters Air Combat Command Directorate of Logistics at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

Registration will be held May 17, 2008 at the Elba High School Auditorium. The event is presented by Greater Essence. The categories for the event will be Tiny Tots: 3 yrs., Kindergarten, Mini Miss: 1st-3rd grade, Little Miss: 4th-6th grade, Junior Miss: 7th-9th grade, and Miss: 10th-12th grade.

Practice will be held Friday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m.

There will be an entry fee that should be turned in with an application to Greater Essence at Elba High School Auditorium. For more information contact Liz at 897-1541, Rolanda at 897-1992, or Cathynette at 897-3334. All proceeds go towards the scholarship funds.

The 2008 Miss Bronze Pageant will be held May 17, 2008 at the Elba High School Auditorium. The event is presented by Greater Essence. The categories for the event will be Tiny Tots: 3 yrs., Kindergarten, Mini Miss: 1st-3rd grade, Little Miss: 4th-6th grade, Junior Miss: 7th-9th grade, and Miss: 10th-12th grade.

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Summer classes will begin soon at Enterprise-Ozark Community College. Registration is open, and the class schedule can be viewed online at www.eoco.edu.

Courses will be offered full-term and first and second semesters, term days and evenings, and at three locations-Enterprise, Fort Rucker, and Ozark. The schedule offers classes for professional cosmetologists with hands-on training to become more knowledgeable in design and color. The ongoing educational program is for personal growth and professional growth in the salon. Also, graduation

from the Specialist Connection is a pre-requisite for the Redken Artist Team.

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SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Erica Daniels &
Kelly Corder

Maddox plans retirement from teaching

by Megan Sullivan

As another school year comes to an end, so does the career of one of Elba's most respected teachers.

Tom Maddox is currently the Elba Elementary band director and music teacher. He has taught for 23 years.

Mr. Maddox attended the University of Southern Mississippi and Troy State University. He has a Bachelor's degree in music education.

When asked about one thing he has learned from his students, Mr. Maddox said, "That students from Florida, Elba, Enterprise or anywhere else I have been have the same basic ability; if they want to achieve, they what else I plan to do."

His philosophy is "life is about choices. Choose right."

When asked what his plans are after retirement, Maddox



said, "Immediately, I plan to attend a sign language workshop in Oklahoma in July. I also plan to go to Guyana, South America for a mission trip in October. Then I better ask my wife what else I plan to do."

Mr. Maddox will really be missed by the Elba band program.

Fifth grade class enjoys field trip to American Village Museum in Montevallo

by Erica Daniels

The Elba Elementary School fifth grade class boarded a chartered Capital Trialways bus Thursday, May 1, to travel to the American Village Museum



in Montevallo. This trip was sponsored and paid for by National Security Insurance of Elba.

The students participated in a living history program called "Liberty." This program examines the actions of the colonists from the beginning of the American Revolution until the setting up of the United States government at the end of the revolution.

The students also participated in scenarios that allowed hands-on learning and interaction. There are also enactors who portray various members of the American Revolution and American Government.

Rush Brunson, a former student and graduate of Elba, is one of the enactors the students saw while on their trip.

The Miss Spring Break

by Erica Daniels

On April 11, the Elba High School journalism staff brought back the Miss Spring Break pageant. This pageant has been held at EHS for many years but was discontinued several years ago.

The Miss Spring Break pageant consists of senior guys who choose to dress up as girls. This year each guy was escorted by a senior girl who chose to dress up as a guy.

The winner was Robby Hudson; 1st runner up was Dakell Berry; 2nd runner up was Justin Gray; and Miss Congeniality was Michael Burks.

This event helps pay for journalism events and supplies.

The students really enjoyed themselves.

On May 1, the class took another field trip to the Coffee County Ground Water Festival held at the Coffee County Farm

Center in New Brockton, Ala.

This field trip was for all fourth graders in the area.

After that, they went to the State House and watched the representatives in session. They next toured the State Capitol and took a picture on the steps with Rep. Terry Spicer.

On the way they stopped at McDonald's and ate chocolate chip cookies. "It was the highlight of the trip," said Mrs. Dye, a fourth grade teacher.

On their journey, they toured

the Governor's mansion, went to the gift shop, and ate lunch on the grounds.

After that, they went to the State House and watched the representatives in session. They next toured the State Capitol and took a picture on the steps with Rep. Terry Spicer.

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155th Brunson Reunion held Saturday, April 19, in Elba

The annual Brunson Reunion was held April 19, 2008.

This year's reunion marked 155 years that the event has been held. It has never been cancelled or postponed.

The reunion began in 1853 as a birthday celebration for Matthew E. Brunson I. He was the original patriarch who brought the family to Coffee County.

Through the years there have been seven family members to sponsor the annual event. They were Matthew E. Brunson I, Matthew E. Brunson II, Arthur Clair Brunson, William Matthew Brunson, Ben Stephen Brunson, Fox Henderson Brunson and Marion B. Brunson Sr. Following the death of Marion B. Brunson Sr. in 2007, the reunion continued under the sponsorship of Marion's family and continues to be held on the picnic grounds on the Brunson Farm.

The several hundred family members in attendance represented at least six different states and the District of Columbia. Delicious bar-b-que, hash and rice, along with a bountiful picnic spread, were enjoyed by those in attendance.

The 2009 reunion will be held on April 18, 2009.

NOTICE:

The Habitat for Humanity House sponsored by the Elba Rotary Club will be starting construction soon. It will require volunteers of all skill levels. Call the Elba Chamber of Commerce (897-3125) if you or a group would like to help with this rewarding project.



William Dave Brunson, two weeks old, was the youngest in attendance. He is the son of Richard and Allyson Brunson of Fairhope, Alabama. Mr. Jack Jones of Samson was the oldest at 101.



At least six states and the District of Columbia were represented. (Seated L-R) Lyn Hutchison, Colorado; Patti Thompson, Virginia (Standing L-R) Valerie Hutchison, Georgia; Karen Gurlick, Florida; Darlene Hutchison-Biehl, Texas; Wayne Brunson, Alabama; and Jason Brunson, District of Columbia.



Cousins, Elise Esco and Mary Brunson, get to know each other. Fox Brunson of Eufaula, Alabama is the son of Bailey Brunson.



Elizabeth Brunson of Elba married A.C. (Bud) Brunson in 1934 and has only missed one reunion in the last 74 years.

I laugh, joke and have fun with family and friends, but I'm serious when it comes to the role of a county official.

As your commissioner, I will work diligently to help satisfy the needs of our citizens and strive to keep our county moving forward.

Remember ~ June 3rd is a Primary
Vote Democrat ~ Vote Jimmy Bryan

Coffee County Commissioner - District 1

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(Paid Political Advertisement by Jimmy Bryan, 9502 Hwy 141, Elba, AL 36323)

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SPORTS

VIEWS FROM....

THE PRESSBOX

BY RICKY MULARZ, SPORTS EDITOR

I have been blessed to have a Mom I could call on for all fifty-five years of my life, and my girls showed their appreciation for all the things their Mother has done throughout their lifetime by sharing cards and gifts last weekend. I know many people have to think back and remember the "good 'ole days" on such holidays. So, I consider myself to be extremely lucky and blessed to be able to tell my Mom in person how much I love her!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Lady Tigers saw their season come to an end last weekend with two losses to West Blocton in the sub-state finals. The Lady Tigers had swept past Choctaw County earlier in the week on the road to move into the finals and had multiple chances to claim a win in the third and deciding game Saturday afternoon. However, the Elba girls stranded too many runners on base in the 2-1 loss, including four runners on third. Elba started slow this season, but the girls have been on a roll late in the season and made it known that their best days are ahead as the youngsters in the lineup learn from their on-the-job training.

*** It was also a heart-breaking weekend for the Kinston Lady Bulldogs and the Brantley Bulldogs. Kinston fell one win short of a trip to the state softball tournament in a sub-state loss to top-ranked Millry, while Brantley dropped two straight games after an opening round win in the baseball semifinals and saw their dreams of playing for a state title come to an abrupt end. The softball and baseball seasons may be over for the teams in the area, but all the teams had good years and gave their fans plenty to cheer about.

*** Elba High will be looking for a new head baseball coach after the sudden resignation of Coach Mike Bucklewe. Coach Bucklewe came to Elba three years ago and served one year as the junior high coach and two years as the varsity coach, and as the head man for the varsity led the Tigers to one area title and one area runner up finish. Bucklewe told me he wanted to spend more time with his children as they grow up and play ball in youth leagues, and as a Dad I can certainly understand his feelings.

*** Former Elba Tiger standout Ronald McKinnon received one of the biggest honors of his career last week when he was named to the College Football Hall of Fame. McKinnon, a three-time All-American at North Carolina, added the gold ring distinction to his vision (small college) and will be enshrined this summer. Ronald was an outstanding young man and football player at Elba High, continued to excel in college and may have been the one of the best pro football players many people never heard of during his 11-year career in the NFL. Every honor he receives is well deserved.

*** Spring football practice began at Elba High this week and a large number of players gathered Coaches Rials and staff for the 10-day drills. The Tigers began to turn the corner last season and posted a winning season against some very solid 3A opponents, and this year will move down into the 2A ranks and should once again be a team to watch. The short spring practice may have an impact, but it should be minimal as the Tigers will not doubt work hard throughout the summer.

*** The NCAA announced last week that Alabama State University had been accused of over 800 violations. The violations varied from minor mistakes in recruiting to playing ineligible players, and the university was also accused of a lack of institutional control, which usually means big penalties. The Hornets may soon have to change their ways.

*** In closing.... The youth baseball and softball seasons have had numerous games canceled in recent weeks due to various school events, and because of that I haven't included the schedules in the paper. Maybe next week things will settle down a little and the schedules will return.

Men's Class C & Class D qualifier set for May 24

There will be a Men's Class C and Men's Class D District Qualifier Softball Tournament at Johnny Henderson Sports Complex, Enterprise, on Saturday, May 24.

Entry fee is \$150 per team and each team must provide its own ASA regulation softball. A 3 home-run rule will be in effect.

Deadline to enter is May 22 at noon. To enter call Nancy at 598-4322 or 763-0327.

Elba 15 Choctaw County 5 – The Elba Lady Tigers used a nine-run second inning to take command and coasted in with a 15-5 victory in the win over Choctaw County in game two action. An rbi double by Brandy Caldwell pulled Elba to a 1-1 in the bottom of the first inning, while Choctaw County regained the lead at 2-1 in the second, only to see Elba break loose and plate nine runs in its half of the inning to jump out to a 10-2 advantage. An rbi single by Ashley Carpenter was the highlight in the big inning for the Lady Tigers, which took advantage of four walks, four errors and three failed attempts on the field's choices to blow the game open. The Lady Tigers scored six runs in the bottom of the fifth, with key hits in the five-run frame being doubles by Kala Rials and singles by Tashima Jones and singles by Lindsey Carney and Bethany Miller.

Lindsey Carney had 2 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Tashima Jones, Ashley Carpenter and Kala Rials all added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Lindsey Carney was the winning pitcher as she pitched seven innings and allowed 3 runs (no earned runs) on 2 hits and struck out 9 batters.

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